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Message Text

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66
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SWF-01 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-01 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-01 SP-02

STR-01 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 NSC-05

SS-15 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /073 W
---------- 089391
R 171540Z DEC 74
FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6277
INFO USMISSION BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EEC, EI
SUBJECT: IRISH VIEWS ON EC SUMMIT

1. NOEL DORR, IRISH POLITICAL DIRECTOR, GAVE US GOI ASSESSMENT OF EC SUMMIT DECEMBER 16. IRELAND'S MAIN INTEREST IN SUMMIT, HE SAID, WAS REGIONAL (DEVELOPMENT) FUND. AMOUNT ALLOCATED FOR FUND WAS LOW. DORR REFERRED TO PRESS DISAPPOINTMENT (DUBLIN 1779) AND SAID THAT GOVT FELT ABOUT THE SAME WAY. DUBLIN IS PLEASED THAT THERE WAS A DECISION TO SET UP ANY FUND AT ALL, BUT THERE IS STILL A REAL CONCERN THAT IRELAND WILL REMAIN A POOR AREA ON PERIPHERY OF A RICH COMMUNITY.

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2. OF OTHER "SUBSTANTIVE" PROBLEMS CONSIDERED AT SUMMIT, DORR

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COMMENTED THAT BRITISH PRESS AND GOVT HAD TENDED TO EXAGGERATE THE DIMENSIONS OF THE "BREAKTHROUGH" IN TERMS FOR BRITISH RENEGOTIATION. IRELAND VERY MUCH HOPES, OF COURSE, THAT BRITAIN WILL SUCCEED IN REMAINING IN EC, BUT THERE IS A LOT OF WORK TO BE DONE YET.

3. DORR DID NOT APPEAR IMPRESSED WITH SUMMIT'S DISCUSSION OF ENERGY AND INFLATION PROBLEMS. MARTINIQUE MEETING, HE SAID, WOULD BE MORE IMPORTANT THAT EC SUMMIT ON QUESTION OF ENERGY.

4. ON "INSTITUTIONAL" (AS OPPOSED TO SUBSTANTIVE) PROBLEMS, DORR THOUGH SUMMIT HAD MADE SLIGHTLY BETTER PROGRESS. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENT WAS THAT FRENCH HAD LIFTED THEIR "EMBARGO" ON LINKS BETWEEN ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL COOPERATION. IT WOULD BE NOW POSSIBLE TO DISCUSS BOTH TOPICS IN THE SAME MEETING, WHICH WOULD BE A SUBSTANTIAL ADVANCE. DUBLIN WAS ALSO PLEASED THAT EC SUMMITS WOULD BECOME "NON-SUMMITS" FROM NOW ON, THOUGH IRISH HAVE SOME REMAINING RESERVATIONS ABOUT "SUMMITEERING" BY ANY NAME. EVEN DEGLAMORIZED SUMMITS WOULD HAVE A TENDENCY TO DETRACT FROM EC INSTITUTIONS AND FOCUS ATTENTION ON NATIONAL LEADERS. (IRISH NEWSPAPERS POINT OUT, IN THIS CONNECTION, THAT PM COSGRAVE DOES NOT HAVE ENOUGH INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE TO COMPETE WITH HEADS OF BIG GOVTS. FONMIN FITZGERALD, ON OTHER HAND, CAN COMPETE WITH ANYONE, AND GOI WOULD OBVIOUSLY PREFER TO LEAVE EC MATTERS IN HIS HANDS.)

5. COMMENT: THIS WAS AN IMPORTANT SUMMIT FOR DUBLIN, SINCE IT WAS FIRST OCCASION ON WHICH IRISH MADE AN ALL OUT EFFORT TO PUSH AN IRISH INTEREST--THE REGIONAL FUND--WHICH WAS MARGINAL TO BIG MEMBER STATES. LUKEWARM ASSESSMENT OF THE SUMMIT IS BASED HEAVILY ON THIS ONE ISSUE.
MOORE

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